

30. (New) A filling connection for gas cylinder valves having an actuating element and a discharge connection on the valve body of the gas cylinder valve, comprising a filling union provided on a valve body in addition to the discharge connection, the filling union extending along a longitudinal axis of the filling union and being adapted to be coupled to a filling station capable of being automated, wherein the actuating element is arranged opposite the discharge connection and at a side of the valve body.

31. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein the discharge connection and the filling union are arranged at right angles to one another on the valve body.

32. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein a spring-biased check valve is fitted in the discharge connection so as to block gas flow in the filling direction.

33. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein the discharge connection and the filling union each open into one of a separate and common through bore in the valve body.

34. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein the discharge connection and filling union are formed in one piece with the valve body.

35. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein the filling union has an outer annular groove for engagement of a filling coupling.

36. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein at least one valve is fitted in the filling union and adapted to block gas flow in the discharge direction.

37. The filling connection according to Claim 30, wherein the filling union has the same outer dimensions and external shape as the discharge connection.

38. (New) A filling connection for gas cylinder valves having an actuating element and a discharge connection on the valve body of the gas cylinder valve, comprising a filling union provided on a valve body in addition to the discharge connection, the filling union extending along a longitudinal axis of the filling union and being adapted to be coupled to a multiple filling coupling adapted for simultaneous filling of a plurality of gas cylinders, wherein the actuating element is arranged opposite the discharge connection and at a side of the valve body.

39. The filling connection according to Claim 38, wherein the discharge connection and the filling union are arranged at right angles to one another on the valve body.

40. The filling connection according to Claim 38, wherein a spring-biased check valve is fitted in the discharge connection so as to block gas flow in the filling direction.